

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method for creating a place in collaboration space, comprising the steps of:

creating a first place; and

saving said first place as a place type template from which other places may be created in said collaboration space.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

responsive to a user selecting a create a collaboration space place action from a browser user interface, displaying a list of custom place types;

receiving from said user a name of a custom place type

6 from said list, together with a name for a new place,  
7 user name and password; and  
  
8 responsive to verification of said user as authorized  
9 by user name and password, creating a new place from  
10 said custom place type.

1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2 organizing said collaboration space according to an  
3 object model selectively including place, room, folder,  
4 page, member, form, field, place type, room type, skin,  
5 and placebot objects.

1 4. The method of claim 3, said place type being  
2 implemented as a directory within said room type.

1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

2 manipulating functionality provided by said place type  
3 template to customize said collaboration space by  
4 integrating external technology.

1       6.    The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2  
3       granting authority to an authorized user to access said  
4       place type and create a new place from said place type;  
5       and  
6       responsive to a request from said authorized user,  
7       modifying said new place.

1       7.    The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
2  
3       responsive to creation of said place type template from  
4       said first place, using said place type template as a  
5       custom place type for creating said other places having  
6       the format, look and feel of said first place.

1       8.    The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:  
2  
3       including membership, forms, placebots and skins  
4       defining a collaboration space place within said place  
5       type.

1        9.    The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:  
  
2           responsive to a user what's new request, displaying at  
3           said browser changes made to said place type.

1        10. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:  
  
2           updating said other place created using said place type  
3           when said place type is modified.

1        11. A method for creating a place in collaboration space,  
2        comprising the steps of:  
  
3           creating a first place;  
  
4           saving said first place as a place type template from  
5           which other places may be created in said collaboration  
6           space; and  
  
7           responsive to place manager selection:

8 selectively preventing changes to look and feel of said  
9 other place by not presenting decorate options in said  
10 place type;

11 selectively displaying a description of said place  
12 type;

13 creating said new place from said place type template;

14 displaying source information for said place type  
15 template, including name and address of collaboration  
16 space place on which said place type is based;

17 selectively hide or redisplay names and descriptions of  
18 place types in said list of available place types;

19 selectively update new places created using said place  
20 type when said place type changes; and

21 selectively copying said place type from a server on  
22 which said place type was created to another server.

1 12. A collaboration space system comprising:

2           a first place;

3           a place type template created from said first place

4           creating other places within said collaboration space.

1       13. The system of claim 12, said collaboration space being

2       organized according to an object model selectively including

3       place, room, folder, page, member, form, field, place type,

4       room type, skin, and placebot objects.

1       14. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

2           a browser for manipulating functionality provided by

3           said place type template.

1       15. The system of claim 13, further comprising:

2           a browser for manipulating functionality provided by

3           said place type template to customize said

4           collaboration space by integrating external technology.

1 16. The system of claim 13, said place type template being  
2 a directory containing all rooms comprising said place type  
3 template.

1 17. The system of claim 16, said place type template  
2 including membership, forms, placebots and skins.

1 18. A program storage device readable by a machine,  
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a  
3 machine to perform method steps for creating a place in  
4 collaboration space, said method steps comprising:

5 creating a first place; and

6 saving said first place as a place type template from  
7 which other places may be created in said collaboration  
8 space.

1 19. The program storage device of claim 18, said method  
2 steps further comprising:

3 responsive to a user selecting a create a collaboration

4 space place action from a browser user interface,  
5 displaying a list of custom place types;  
  
6 receiving from said user a name of a custom place type  
7 from said list, together with a name for a new place,  
8 user name and password; and  
  
9 responsive to verification of said user as authorized  
10 by user name and password, creating a new place from  
11 said custom place type.

1 20. A computer program product or computer program element  
2 for creating a place in collaboration space by creating a  
3 first place; and saving said first place as a place type  
4 template from which other places may be created in said  
5 collaboration space.